

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1 and 6. These sheets, which include Figures 1 and 6, replace the original sheets including Figures 1 and 6. In Figure 1, previously omitted reference number 100 has been added. In Figure 6, reference numbers 600, 602, and 604 have been renumbered 700, 702, and 704, respectively.

Attachments:        Replacements Sheets 1 and 6

### REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the application and the same are rejected. By this Amendment, claims 3-6 and 11-15 are cancelled and claims 1, 7-10, 16, and 19-22 are amended. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 7-10, and 16-22 remain in the application and are presented for review and further consideration by the Examiner.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include references mentioned in the description.

In response, Applicants have amended Figure 1 and the specification to make the corrections.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character 600, 602, and 604 have been used to designate different flow steps in Figures 5 and 6.

In response, Applicants have amended Figure 6 and the specification to renumber 600, 602, and 604 of Figure 6 as 700, 702, and 704, respectively.

The Examiner has objected to the specification as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) and 37 CFR 1.121(e) because the specification lacks an explicit reference to 604 of Figure 6.

In response, Applicants have amended the specification to include a specific reference to 604 (renumbered 704) of Figure 6.

The Examiner has rejected claims 5-8 and 10-22 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. (Examiner's Action, page 6, ¶ 5).

In response, Applicants have canceled claims 5, 6, and 11-15 and amended claims 7, 8, 10, 16, 19, and 20 to make the claims more definite.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the invention as claimed is directed to non-statutory subject matter. (Examiner's Action, page 8, ¶ 7). The Examiner suggests that Applicants' claims do not produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result.

Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants' independent claims 1, 8-10, 21, and 22 are directed to determining a price for a print job. Transforming data through a series of mathematical calculations into a price produces a useful, concrete, and tangible result. *State Street*, 149 F.3d at 1373, 47 USPQ2d at 1601.

Applicants' claims transform data (i.e. color value numbers for a color for each pixel of a document) through a series of mathematical calculations into a price for a print job. The price is useful, concrete, and tangible. Therefore, Applicants' claims produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result. Since Applicant's claims produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result, they are directed to statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §101.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farrell, U.S. Patent No. 5,383,129, in view of Barry, et al., U.S. Published Application 2005/0007621. (Examiner's Action, page 16, ¶ 8.1).

As to Applicants' dependent claims 4 and 13, Applicants respectfully disagree.

Barry discloses a method for determining a toner level in electro-photographic print engines. The toner level is determined by calculating a quantity of toner used for each print job and subtracting it from the total remaining toner. The quantity of toner used for each print job is calculated by accumulating values of pixels in a page of the print job. The accumulated value is divided by a total number of pixels in a page to get an average pixel value. The average value is defined as a percentage of a black page. The percentage is multiplied by a maximum amount of toner required to produce a black page. The product is the quantity of toner for the page. Each page of the print job is

evaluated in this way to determine the quantity of toner used for the print job.  
(Barry, Fig. 33 and paragraphs 0173-0175)

Barry does not disclose estimating an approximate amount of ink coverage. In particular, Barry does not disclose multiplying the accumulated value of a color by the size of a pixel to obtain an ink coverage value associated with the color. Therefore, Barry does not disclose estimating an approximate amount of ink coverage associated with a print job, wherein the amount of ink coverage for each color is estimated by summing a color value number for the color for each pixel of the document to obtain a total color value number and multiplying the total color value number by the size of a pixel to obtain an ink coverage value associated with the color.

Furthermore, as the Examiner has noted, Farrell does not disclose estimating the amount of ink for a print job. Nor does Farrell disclose estimating the amount of ink coverage for a print job.

In contrast, Applicants' independent claims 1, 8-10, 21 and 22, as amended to include wording from dependent claims 4 and 13, include the wording that an approximate amount of ink coverage associated with a print job is estimated by summing a color value number for the color for each pixel of the document to obtain a total color value number and multiplying the total color value number by the size of a pixel to obtain an ink coverage value associated with the color. Neither Barry nor Farrell discloses this wording.

In view of Applicants' arguments and amendments with respect to independent claims 1, 8-10, 21, and 22 being allowable, Applicants respectfully submit that the remaining dependent claims are also allowable because they contain all of the limitations of their respective independent claims and further add structural and functional limitations.

The foregoing amendments and arguments are believed to be a complete response to the most recent Examiner's Action.

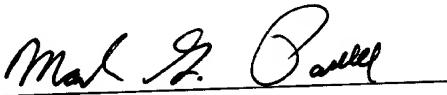
No new matter has been added.

It is respectfully submitted that there is no claim, teaching, motivation, or suggestion in any of the prior art cited, alone or in combination, to produce what Applicants claim.

It is further submitted that the application, as amended, defines patentable subject matter and that the claims are in a condition for allowance. Such allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Should any issues remain which would preclude the prompt disposition of this case, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned practitioner by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,  
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